Field Collection Procedures for Bed Sediment Samples

Bed sediment (hereafter termed "sediment") samples are collected after any water samples are collected where water and sediment are taken in the same reach. Care must be taken not to sample sediments that have been walked on or disturbed in any manner by field personnel collecting water samples. Sediment samples are collected into a composite jar, where they are thoroughly homogenized in the field, and then aliquoted into separate jars for chemical or toxicological analysis. Sediment samples for metals and organics are submitted to the respective analytical laboratories in separate glass jars, which have been pre-cleaned according to laboratory protocol.

Sediment chemistry samples give information regarding both trends in contaminant loading and the potential for adverse effects on sediment and aquatic biota. In order to compare samples over time and from site to site, they must be collected in a consistent manner. Recently deposited fine grain sediments (see attached table) are the target for sediment collection. If a suitable site for collecting sediments cannot be found at a station (it only contains larger grain material), sampling personnel should not collect the sediment sample, and should instead attempt to reschedule the sample collection or move to a different area that has more recently deposited fine sediment. If this is not possible, make a note so that the missing sample is accounted for in the reconciliation of monitoring events during preparation of sample collection "cruise reports". Sites that are routinely difficult to collect should be considered for elimination or relocation from the sample schedule, if appropriate.

Characteristics of Ideal Sediment Material to be Collected

Many of the chemical constituents of concern are adsorbed onto fine particles. One of the major objectives in selecting a sample site, and in actually collecting the sample while on site, is to obtain recently deposited fine sediment, to the extent possible. Avoid hard clay, bank deposits, gravel, disturbed and/or filled areas. Any sediment that resists being scooped by a dredge is probably not recently deposited fine sediment material. In following this guidance, the collection of sediment is purposefully being biased for fine materials, which must be discussed thoroughly in any subsequent interpretive reporting of the data, in regards to representation of the collected sample to the environment from which it was collected.

Characteristics of an Ideal Site

Quiescent areas are conducive to the settling of finer materials (EPA/USACOE, 1981).
Choose a sampling site with lower hydrologic energy, such as the inner (depositional) side of bends or eddies where the water movement may be slower. Reservoirs and estuaries are generally

depositional environments, also.

Selecting the Appropriate Sediment Type for Analysis

Sediment will vary from site to site and can vary between sample events at a particular site.

Streams and Rivers: Sediment collection in flowing streams is often a challenge. In areas of frequent scouring there may not be sufficient sediment for collection during or following periods of high flow. Sediment collection during these times may prove unsuccessful and may have to be rescheduled or cancelled.

When the suspended load in rivers and streams precipitates due to reduction of velocity, most of the resulting sediment will be fine-grained. More often than not, a dredge or mechanical grab device does not function well for collection of sediment in smaller streams. In many cases, sediment will have to be collected using a pre-cleaned polyethylene scoop. Collect the top 2 cm for analysis. Five or more (depending on the volume of sediment needed for conducting analyses) fine-sediment sub-sites within a 100-m reach are sampled into the composite jar.

Reservoirs and Estuaries: Collect the top 2 cm for analysis. Grabs are composited for the sediment sample, depending on the volume of sediment needed for conducting analyses.

GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTION OF BED SEDIMENT

After choosing an appropriate site, and identifying appropriate fine-grained sediment areas within the general reach, collect the sample using one or more of the following procedures, depending on the setting:

A. <u>Sediment Scoop Method—Primary Method for Wadeable, Shallow Streams</u>

- The goal is to collect the top 2 cm of recently-deposited fine sediment only.
- Wear gloves and protective gear, in areas of potential exposure hazards, per appropriate protocol (make sure gloves are long enough to prevent water from overflowing gloves while submerging scoop).
- Survey the sampling area for appropriate fine-sediment depositional areas before stepping into the stream, to avoid disturbing possible sediment collection sub-sites.
- Carefully enter the stream and start sampling at the closest appropriate reach, then continue sampling UPSTREAM. Never advance downstream, as this could lead to sampling

disturbed sediment.

- Stir, do not shake, collected sediment with a polyethylene scoop for at least 5 min making sure all sediment is completely homogenized.
- Quickly scoop sediment out of the homogenizing jar into desired sampling jars making sure to stir the sediment in the homogenizing jar in between each aliquot.
- Inspect each individual sediment jar making sure of consistent grain size throughout the entire sample collection.
- Single bag all sediment containers to prevent cross contamination.
- Make sure all containers are capped tightly and stored in a cooler on cube ice at 6 °C.

B. Hand Core Method-Alternate method for wadeable shallow streams with fine sediment

- A hand core is used in wadeable streams where there is very fine sediment.
- The hand core sampler consists of a 3-in. diameter polycarbonate core that is 8 inches long. Samplers push the core into the sediment to the desired depth, pull the core out of the sediment, and cap the bottom with a polyethylene core cap or by placing their hand underneath the cap to hold the sediment in place.
- Hand cores are usually measured and marked at 2 cm length so the sampler knows how far to deploy the core into the sediment.
- Sediment is then emptied into a homogenizing jug and aliquoted accordingly.

C. Sediment Grab Method—Primarily for Lake, River, Bridge, and Estuarine Settings (or deeper streams)

Description of sediment grab equipment:

- A mechanical sediment grab is used for the SWAMP bed sediment collection field effort for lake, river, bridge, and estuarine/coastal settings (or deeper, non-wadeable streams).
- The mechanical grab is a stainless steel "Young-modified Van Veen Grab", and is 0.5 m^2 in size.
- The mechanical grab is deployed primarily from a boat, and is used in deeper, non-wadeable waters, such as lakes, rivers, estuaries, and coastal areas.
- It is also deployed by field personnel from land in settings which allow its use: primarily from bridges; from smaller vessels in streams or drainage channels too deep or steep to wade into, but too shallow for a larger boat.

Deploying and retrieving the grab:

- Slowly lower the grab to the bottom with a minimum of substrate disturbance.
- Retrieve the closed dredge at a moderate speed (e.g., less than two feet per second).
- Upon retrieval, open the lids of the sediment grab, examine the sample to ensure that the

sediment surface is undisturbed and that the grab sample should not be rejected.

Rejection Criteria—reject the sample if the following are not met:

- Mud surface must not be pressing out of the top of the sampler. If it is, lower the grab more slowly.
- Overlying water must not be leaking out along the sides of the sediment in the grab. This ensures the surficial sediment is not washed out.
- Sediment surface is flat and level in the sampler. If it is not level, the grab has tilted over before closing.

Processing the sediment sample from the grab equipment:

- The water overlying the sediment in the grab is very gently decanted by slightly tipping the grab with the lid closed until the water runs out the top.
- The decanting process should remove all of the overlying water but not remove the surficial sediments. The laboratory reports percent water for the sample, so overlying water is not included in the sample container.
- The sediment is examined for depth of penetration, color and thickness of top aerobic zone, and texture. These observations are recorded on the field data sheet.
- Collect the top 2 cm from at least five sub samples, and otherwise, exclude the bottom-most layer and composite.
- In streams or other settings with excessive bottom debris (e.g., rocks, sticks, leaves) where the use of a grab is determined to be ineffective (e.g., dredge does not close, causing loss of sediment), samples may be collected by hand using a clean plastic scoop, or by a variety of coring methods, if appropriate for the situation.
- Sediment is handled as described below in the metals and organic sections.

Cleaning the Grab Equipment and Protection from Potential Contaminating Sources:

- The sediment sampler will be cleaned prior to sampling EACH site by: rinsing all surfaces with ambient water, scrubbing all sediment sample contact surfaces with Micro™ or equivalent detergent, rinsing all surfaces with ambient water, rinsing sediment sample contact surfaces with 5% HCl, and rinsing all sediment sample contact surfaces with methanol.
- The sediment grab will be scrubbed with ambient water between successive deployments at ONE site, in order to remove adhering sediments from contact surfaces possibly originating below the sampled layer, thus preventing contamination from areas beyond target sampling area.
- Sampling procedures will attempt to avoid exhaust from any engine aboard any vessel involved in sample collection. An engine will be turned off when possible during portions of the sampling process where contamination from engine exhaust may occur. It is critical that sample contamination be avoided during sample collection. All sampling equipment (e.g., siphon hoses, scoops, containers) will be made of non-contaminating material and will be appropriately cleaned before use. Samples will not be touched with un-gloved fingers. In addition, potential airborne contamination (e.g., from engine exhaust, cigarette smoke) will be avoided.

D. Core Method--alternative for fast-moving, wadeable streams

The core method is used in soft sediments when it is difficult to use the other methodologies. The cores can be used in depths of water from 0 to 10 ft by using a pole deployment device or in deeper water using SCUBA divers. The pole deployment device consists of a pole that attaches to the top of the core. The top of the core is fitted with a one-way valve, which allows the core to be filled with sediment, but when pulled from the sediment catches the sediment within the core. The core is then brought to the surface and the sediments within the core are extruded out the top of the core so that 2 cm of sediment is above the top of the plastic core. The 2 cm of sediment is then sliced off and placed in the homogenizing jar. A new core, homogenizing jar, and device used to slice off the top two cm. are used at each station unless the equipment is cleaned using laboratory protocols.

E. Sediment Grab Method – Primarily used from bridges or for streams with restricted bank access.

Description and sampling procedure for the Eckman sediment grab

- The Eckman grab is 0.2 m^2 in size with a lead "messenger" that triggers the spring loaded doors.
- The primary use is for sampling from bridges or from small vessels in streams or drainage channels too deep or steep to wade into, but too shallow for a larger boat.
- The grab must be cleaned with a Micro™ and tap water rinse before sampling and in-between sample stations.
- To deploy the grab, pull the spring loaded doors open and hook the cables on the actuator plate.
- With a rope, lower the grab to the desired sample reach making sure that the grab has penetrated the sediment. Clip the "messenger" on the rope and release it while maintaining tension on the rope. Pull up the grab once the "messenger" has activated the doors.
- While wearing clean poly gloves, open the top hatch and remove the top 2 cm of sediment with a clean polyethylene scoop. Place the sediment into the homogenizing jug and repeat the sampling process until there is enough desired sediment. See general procedures for processing of bed sediment samples, once they are collected for sediment homogenization and aliquoting into sample jars.

GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING OF BED SEDIMENT SAMPLES, ONCE THEY ARE COLLECTED

Sediment Homogenization, Aliquoting and Transport

For the collection of bed sediment samples, the top 2 cm is removed from the scoop, or the grab, or the core, and placed in the 4-L glass compositing/homogenizing container. The composited sediment in the container is homogenized and aliquoted on-site in the field. The sample is stirred with a polyethylene scoop until sediment/mud appears homogeneous. All sample identification information (station numbers, etc.) will be recorded prior to homogenizing and aliquoting. Sediment samples will immediately then be cooled to 6 °□C and separated for preservation according to the: Summary of Sample Container, Volume, Preservation, and Storage Requirements for SWAMP Bed Sediment, Biota, and Tissue Samples (for contaminant analysis).Each container will be sealed in one large plastic bag to prevent contact with other samples or ice or water.

Metals and Semi-volatile Organics in Sediment	For trace metals and semi-volatile organics, a minimum of three grabs is distributed to the composite bottle and/or sample containers. Mixing is generally done with a polyethylene scoop. Make sure the sample volume is adequate, but the containers do not need to be filled to the top. Seal the jars with the Teflon liner in the lids.
Sediment Conventionals	Sediment conventionals are sometimes requested when sediment organics, sediment metals, and/or sediment toxicity tests are requested for analysis of samples. The collection method is the same as that for metals, semi-volatile organics, and pesticides. Sediment conventionals include: grain size analysis and total organic carbon. These are used in the interpretation of metals and organics in sediment data.
Sample Containers	See "Sediment Sample Handling Requirements" table at end of this document.
Sediment Sample Size	Must collect sufficient volume of sediment to allow for proper analysis, including possible repeats, as well as any requested archiving of samples for possible later analysis. See "Sediment Sample Handling Requirements" Table at end of this document.
Labeling	Label the jars with the station ID, sample code, matrix type, project ID, time, and date of collection, as well as the type of analysis requested (e.g., metals, conventionals, organics, or archives).
Short-term Field Preservation	Immediately place the labeled jar on ice, cool to 6 °□C, and keep in the dark at 4 °□C until delivery to the laboratory.
Field Notes	Fill out the SWAMP Sediment Data Sheet. Make sure to record any field notes that are not listed on the provided data sheets. This information can be reported as comments with the sediment analytical results.

Summary of Sample Container, Volume, Preservation, and Storage Requirements for SWAMP Bed Sediment, Biota, and Tissue Samples (for contaminant analysis)

Parameters for Analysis	**Recommended Containers**	**Typical Sample Volume (mL)**	**Initial Field Preservation**	**Maximum Holding Time**
Bed Sediment Samples				
Trace Metals, including Hg and As (except for Se--see below)	60-mL I-Chem 300- series clear glass jar with Teflon lid-liner; Pre-cleaned	60 mL (one jar)	Cool to ≤6 °C within 24 hours, then freeze to ≤-20 °C	12 months(1) (-20 °C)
Methylmercury	60-mL I-Chem 300- series clear glass jar with Teflon lid-liner; Pre-cleaned	60 mL (one jar)	Freeze to ≤-20 °C immediately	12 months(1) (-20 °C)
Selenium (separate container required)	60-mL I-Chem 300- series clear glass jar with Teflon lid-liner; Pre-cleaned	60 mL (one jar)	Cool to ≤6 °C within 24 hours, then freeze to ≤-20 °C	12 months(1) (-20 °C)
Synthetic Organic Compounds	250-mL I-Chem 300-series amber glass jar with Teflon lid-liner; Pre-cleaned	500 mL (two jars)	Cool to ≤6 °C within 24 hours, then freeze to ≤-20 °C	12 months(1) (-20 °C)
Sediment TOC	250-mL(3) clear glass jar; Pre-cleaned	125 mL (one jar)	Cool to ≤6 ˚C or freeze to ≤-20 ˚C	28 days at ≤6 ˚C; 1 year at ≤-20 ˚C (2)
Sediment Grain Size	250-mL(3) clear glass jar; Pre-cleaned	125 mL (one jar)	Wet ice to ≤6 ˚C in the field, then refrigerate at ≤6 ˚C	1 year (≤6 ˚C) ***Do not freeze***
Sediment Toxicity Testing	1-L I-Chem wide-mouth polyethylene jar with Teflon lid-liner; Pre-cleaned	2 (two jars filled completely)	Cool to 4 °C, dark, up to 14 days	14 days (4 °C) ***Do not freeze***

(1) Sediment samples for parameters noted with one asterisk (*) may be refrigerated at 6 °C for up to 14 days maximum, but analysis must start within the 14-day period of collection or thawing, or the sediment sample must be stored frozen at minus (-) 20 °C for up to 12 months.

(2) Sediment samples for sediment TOC analysis can be held at 4°C for up to 28 days, and should be analyzed within this 28-day period, but can be frozen at any time during the initial 28 days, for up to 12 months at minus (-) 20 °C.

(3) Sediment samples for TOC AND grain size analysis can be combined in one 250 mL clear glass jar, and sub-sampled at the laboratory in order to utilize holding time differences for the two analyses. If this is done, the 250 mL combined sediment sample must be refrigerated only (not frozen) at 4 °C for up to 28 days, during which time the sub-samples must be aliquoted in order to comply with separate storage requirements (as shown above).

APPENDIX G:

STATE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES – PART 1 SEDIMENT QUALITY (SQO – PART 1)

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CALIFORNIA

Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES - PART 1 SEDIMENT QUALITY

Effective August 25, 2009

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

California Environmental Protection Agency

State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

California Environmental Protection Agency
Linda S. Adams, Secretary

State Water Resources Control Board
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov

Charles R. Hoppin, Chair

Francis Spivy-Weber, Vice Chair

Tam M. Doduc, Member

Arthur G. Baggett, Jr., Member

Dorothy Rice, Executive Director

Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director

Thomas Howard, Chief Deputy Director

History of Plan
Adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on September 16, 2008
Approved by the Office of Administrative Law on January 5, 2009
Approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on August 25, 2009

Prepared by
Chris Beegan, Ocean Unit, Division of Water Quality

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-0070

ADOPTION OF A WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR
ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES – PART 1 SEDIMENT QUALITY

WHEREAS:

1. California Water Code section 13393 requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop sediment quality objectives for toxic pollutants for California's enclosed bays and estuaries.

2. In 1991, the State Water Board adopted a workplan for the development of sediment quality objectives for California's enclosed bays and estuaries (1991 Workplan).

3. Due to funding constraints, the State Water Board did not implement the 1991 Workplan; consequently, litigation by environmental interests against the State Water Board ensued.

4. In August 2001, the Sacramento County Superior Court ruled against the state and ordered the State Water Board to initiate development of sediment quality objectives. On May 21, 2003, the State Water Board adopted a revised workplan.

5. Based upon the scope of work in the revised workplan, staff developed narrative sediment quality objectives to protect benthic communities, which utilize an approach based upon multiple lines of evidence.

6. Narrative sediment quality objectives have also been developed to protect human health from exposure to contaminants in fish tissue.

7. Staff also developed an implementation program for the narrative sediment quality objectives based upon input from the Scientific Steering Committee, Sediment Quality Advisory Committee, and staff of the State Water Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards), and staff from other state and federal agencies. The work that has been completed, to date, is Phase 1 of the sediment quality objectives program.

8. The State Water Board recognizes this effort is an iterative process. Staff additionally have initiated a second phase of the sediment quality objectives program (Phase 2), which includes extensive sediment sampling in the Delta; further development of the estuarine chemistry, sediment toxicity, and benthic community indicators; and completion of a more prescriptive framework to address human health and exposure to contaminants in fish tissue. The tools, indicators, and framework developed under Phase 2 will be adopted into the draft plan in 2010. Phase 3 is proposed as the development, within available resources, of a

framework to protect fish and/or wildlife from the effects of pollutants in sediment. During Phases 2 and 3, staff would continue to evaluate the tools developed during the initial phase and the implementation language. As the Water Boards experience grows, the draft plan would be updated and amended as necessary to more effectively interpret and implement the narrative objectives.

9. In the process of developing SQOs, the State Water Board has identified the need to address statewide consistency in the regulation of dredging activities under the water quality certification program. While this issue is outside the scope of this plan, the State Water Board will consider initiating policy development in the future to address regulation of dredging activities under the water quality certification program.

10. The State Water Board's Clean Water Act section 303(d) listing policy was adopted prior to the development of SQOs and without the benefit of the scientific evidence supporting their development. The State Water Board recognizes the need to ensure that the listing policy and this plan are consistent. The State Water Board will, therefore, consider amending the 303(d) listing policy in the future to ensure consistency with this plan.

11. Staff has responded to significant verbal and written comments received from the public and made minor revisions to the draft plan in response to the comments.

12. In adopting this draft plan, the State Water Board has considered the requirements in Water Code section 13393. In particular, the sediment quality objectives are based on scientific information, including chemical monitoring, bioassays, and established modeling procedures; and the objectives provide adequate protection for the most sensitive aquatic organisms. In addition, sediment quality objectives for the protection of human health from contaminants in fish tissue are based on a health risk assessment.

13. As required by Water Code section 13393, the State Water Board has followed the procedures for adoption of water quality control plans in Water Code sections 13240 through 13247, in adopting this draft plan. In addition to the procedural requirements, the State Water Board has considered the substantive requirements in Water Code sections 13241 and 13242. The State Water Board has considered the past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of estuarine and bay waters that can be impacted by toxic pollutants in sediments; environmental characteristics of these waters; water quality conditions that can reasonably be achieved through the control of all factors affecting sediment quality; and economic considerations. Adoption of this draft plan is unlikely to affect housing needs or the development or use of recycled water. Further, the State Water Board has developed an implementation program to achieve the sediment quality objectives, which describes actions to be taken to achieve the objectives and monitoring to determine compliance with the objectives. Time schedules to achieve the objectives will be developed on a case-by-case basis by the appropriate Regional Water Board.

14. This draft plan is consistent with the state and federal antidegradation policies (State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 C.F.R. Section 131.12, respectively). No lowering of water quality is anticipated to result from adoption of the draft plan. The draft plan contains scientifically-defensible sediment quality objectives for bays and estuaries, which can be consistently applied statewide to assess sediment quality, regulate waste discharges that can impact sediment quality, and provide the basis for appropriate remediation activities, where necessary. Adoption of the draft plan should result in improved sediment quality.

15. The Resources Agency has approved the State and Regional Water Boards' planning process as a "certified regulatory program" that adequately satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for preparing environmental documents. State Water Board staff has prepared a "substitute environmental document" for this project that contains the required environmental documentation under the State Water Board's CEQA regulations. (California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3777.) The substitute environmental documents include the "Draft Staff Report – Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries, Part 1. Sediment Quality," the environmental checklist, the comments and responses to comments, the plan itself, and this resolution. The project is the adoption of sediment quality objectives and an implementation program, as Part 1 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries.

16. CEQA scoping hearings were conducted on October 23, 2006 in San Diego, California, on November 8, 2006 in Oakland, California, and on November 28, 2006 in Rancho Cordova, California.

17. On September 26, 2007, staff circulated the draft plan – Part 1 Sediment Quality for public comment.

18. On November 19, 2007, the State Water Board conducted a public hearing on the draft plan and supporting Draft Staff Report and Substitute Environmental Document. Written comments were received through November 30, 2007.

19. The State Water Board adopted the Plan on February 19, 2008, and submitted it to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on February 29, 2008. Review by OAL revealed that the statutorily-required newspaper notification of the November 2007 hearing had not occurred. The State Water Board has, therefore, noticed and conducted a new public hearing for the draft plan on September 16, 2008.

20. In preparing the substitute environmental documents, the State Water Board has considered the requirements of Public Resources Code section 21159 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15187, and intends these documents to serve as a Tier 1 environmental review. The State Water Board has considered the reasonably foreseeable consequences of adoption of the draft plan; however, project level impacts may need to be considered in any subsequent environmental analysis performed by lead agencies, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21159.1.

21. Consistent with CEQA, the substitute environmental documents do not engage in speculation or conjecture but, rather, analyze the reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts related to methods of compliance with the draft plan, reasonably foreseeable mitigation measures to reduce those impacts, and reasonably feasible alternatives means of compliance that would avoid or reduce the identified impacts.

22. The draft plan could have a potentially significant adverse effect on the environment. However, there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures that, if employed, would reduce the potentially significant adverse impacts identified in the substitute environmental documents to less than significant levels. These alternatives or mitigation measures are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of other public agencies. When the sediment quality objectives are implemented on a project-specific basis, the agencies responsible for the project can and should incorporate the alternatives or mitigation measures into any subsequent project or project approvals.

23. From a program-level perspective, incorporation of the mitigation measures described in the substitute environmental documents will foreseeably reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

24. The substitute environmental documents for this draft plan identify broad mitigation approaches that should be considered at the project level.

25. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 57400, the draft Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries – Part 1 Sediment Quality has undergone external peer review through an interagency agreement with the University of California.

26. This draft plan must be submitted for review and approval to the State Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The draft plan will become effective upon approval by OAL and USEPA.

27. If, during the OAL approval process, OAL determines that minor, non-substantive modifications to the language of the draft plan are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Director or designee may make such changes consistent with the State Water Board's intent in adopting this draft plan, and shall inform the State Water Board of any such changes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves and adopts the CEQA substitute environmental documentation, including all findings contained in the documentation, which was prepared in accordance with Public Resources Code section 21159 and California Code of

Regulations, Title 14, section 15187, and directs the Executive Director or designee to sign the environmental checklist;

2. After considering the entire record, including oral testimony at the public hearing, hereby adopts the proposed Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries – Part 1 Sediment Quality;

3. Directs staff to submit the administrative record to OAL for review and approval; and

4. If, during the OAL approval process, OAL determines that minor, non-substantive modifications to the language of the draft plan are needed for clarity or consistency, directs the Executive Director or designee to make such changes and inform the State Water Board of any such changes.

5. Directs staff to initiate appropriate proceedings to amend the section 303(d) listing policy by February 2009.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Acting Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on September 16, 2008.

AYE:	Chair Tam M. Doduc Arthur G. Baggett, Jr. Charles R. Hoppin Frances Spivy-Weber
NAY:	None
ABSENT:	Vice Chair Gary Wolff, P.E., Ph.D
ABSTAIN:	None

Jeanine Townsend

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

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ATTACHMENTS

I. INTENT AND SUMMARY

A. INTENT OF PART 1 OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES (PART 1)

It is the goal of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to comply with the legislative directive in Water Code §13393 to adopt sediment quality objectives (SQOs). Part 1 integrates chemical and biological measures to determine if the sediment dependent biota are protected or degraded as a result of exposure to toxic pollutants* in sediment and to protect human health. Part 1 is not intended to address low dissolved oxygen, pathogens or nutrients including ammonia. Part 1 represents the first phase of the State Water Board's SQO development effort and focuses primarily on the protection of benthic* communities in enclosed bays* and estuaries*. The State Water Board has committed in the second phase to the refinement of benthic community protection indicators for estuarine waters and the development of an improved approach to address sediment quality related human health risk associated with consumption of fish tissue.

B. SUMMARY OF PART 1

Part 1 includes:

1. Narrative SQOs for the protection of aquatic life and human health;
2. Identification of the beneficial uses that these objectives are intended to protect;
3. A program of implementation that contains:
   a. Specific indicators, tools and implementation provisions to determine if the sediment quality at a station or multiple stations meets the narrative objectives;
   b. A description of appropriate monitoring programs; and
   c. A sequential series of actions that shall be initiated when a sediment quality objective is not met including stressor identification and evaluation of appropriate targets.
4. A glossary that defines all terms denoted by an asterisk

II. USE AND APPLICABILITY OF SQOS

A. AMBIENT SEDIMENT QUALITY

The SQOs and supporting tools shall be utilized to assess ambient sediment quality.

B. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER NARRATIVE OBJECTIVES

1. Except as provided in 2 below, Part 1 supersedes all applicable narrative water quality objectives and related implementation provisions in water quality control plans (basin plans) to the extent that the objectives and provisions are applied to protect bay or estuarine benthic communities from toxic pollutants in sediments.
2. The supersession provision in 1. above does not apply to existing sediment cleanup activities where a site assessment was completed and submitted to the Regional Water Board by February 19, 2008.

C. Applicable Waters

Part 1 applies to enclosed bays[1] and estuaries[2] only. Part 1 does not apply to ocean waters* including Monterey Bay and Santa Monica Bay, or inland surface waters*.

D. Applicable Sediments

Part 1 applies to subtidal surficial sediments* that have been deposited or emplaced seaward of the intertidal zone. Part 1 does not apply to:

1. Sediments characterized by less than five percent of fines or substrates composed of gravels, cobbles, or consolidated rock.
2. Sediment as the physical pollutant that causes adverse biological response or community degradation related to burial, deposition, or sedimentation.

E. Applicable Discharges

Part 1 is applicable in its entirety to point source* discharges. Nonpoint sources* of toxic pollutants are subject to Sections II, III, IV, V, and VI of Part 1.

III. BENEFICIAL USES

Beneficial uses protected by Part 1 and corresponding target receptors are identified in Table 1.

Table 1. Beneficial Uses and Target Receptors

Beneficial Uses	Target Receptors
Estuarine Habitat	Benthic Community
Marine Habitat	Benthic Community
Commercial and Sport Fishing	Human Health
Aquaculture	Human Health
Shellfish Harvesting	Human Health

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[1] ENCLOSED BAYS are indentations along the coast which enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. This definition includes, but is not limited to: Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drakes Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay.

[2] ESTUARIES AND COASTAL LAGOONS are waters at the mouths of streams that serve as mixing zones for fresh and ocean waters during a major portion of the year. Mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered as estuaries. Estuarine waters will generally be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to the upstream limit of tidal action but may be considered to extend seaward if significant mixing of fresh and salt water occurs in the open coastal waters. The waters described by this definition include, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined by Section 12220 of CWC, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Klamath, Mad, Eel, Noyo, and Russian Rivers.

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IV. SEDIMENT QUALITY OBJECTIVES

A. Aquatic Life – Benthic Community Protection

Pollutants in sediments shall not be present in quantities that, alone or in combination, are toxic to benthic communities in bays and estuaries of California. This narrative objective shall be implemented using the integration of multiple lines of evidence (MLOE) as described in Section V of Part 1.

B. Human Health

Pollutants shall not be present in sediments at levels that will bioaccumulate in aquatic life to levels that are harmful to human health. This narrative objective shall be implemented as described in Section VI of Part 1.

V. BENTHIC COMMUNITY PROTECTION

A. MLOE Approach to Interpret the Narrative Objective

The methods and procedures described below shall be used to interpret the Narrative Objective described in Section IV.A. These tools are intended to assess the condition of benthic communities relative to potential for exposure to toxic pollutants in sediments. Exposure to toxic pollutants at harmful levels will result in some combination of a degraded benthic community, presence of toxicity, and elevated concentrations of pollutants in sediment. The assessment of sediment quality shall consist of the measurement and integration of three lines of evidence (LOE). The LOE are:

- ***Sediment Toxicity***—Sediment toxicity is a measure of the response of invertebrates exposed to surficial sediments under controlled laboratory conditions. The sediment toxicity LOE is used to assess both pollutant related biological effects and exposure. Sediment toxicity tests are of short durations and may not duplicate exposure conditions in natural systems. This LOE provides a measure of exposure to all pollutants present, including non-traditional or unmeasured chemicals.
- ***Benthic Community Condition***—Benthic community condition is a measure of the species composition, abundance and diversity of the sediment-dwelling invertebrates inhabiting surficial sediments*. The benthic community LOE is used to assess impacts to the primary receptors targeted for protection under Section IV.A. Benthic community composition is a measure of the biological effects of both natural and anthropogenic stressors.
- ***Sediment Chemistry***—Sediment chemistry is the measurement of the concentration of chemicals of concern* in surficial sediments. The chemistry LOE is used to assess the potential risk to benthic organisms from toxic pollutants in surficial sediments. The sediment chemistry LOE is intended only to evaluate overall exposure risk from chemical pollutants. This LOE does not establish causality associated with specific chemicals.

B. Limitations

None of the individual LOE is sufficiently reliable when used alone to assess sediment quality impacts due to toxic pollutants. Within a given site, the LOEs applied to assess exposure as described in Section V.A. may underestimate or overestimate the risk to benthic communities and do not indicate causality of specific chemicals. The LOEs applied to assess biological effects can respond to stresses associated with natural or physical factors, such as sediment grain size, physical disturbance, or organic enrichment.

Each LOE produces specific information that, when integrated with the other LOEs, provides a more confident assessment of sediment quality relative to the narrative objective. When the exposure and effects tools are integrated, the approach can quantify protection through effects measures and also provide predictive capability through the exposure assessment.

C. Water Bodies

1. The tools described in the Sections V.D. through V.I. are applicable to Euhaline* Bays and Coastal Lagoons* south of Point Conception and Polyhaline* San Francisco Bay that includes the Central and South Bay Areas defined in general by waters south and west of the San Rafael Bridge and north of the Dumbarton Bridge.
2. For all other bays and estuaries where LOE measurement tools are unavailable, station assessment will follow the procedure described in Section V.J.

D. Field Procedures

1. All samples shall be collected using a grab sampler.
2. Benthic samples shall be screened through:
   a. A 0.5 millimeter (mm)-mesh screen in San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta;
   b. A 1.0 mm-mesh screen in all other locations.
3. Surface sediment from within the upper 5 cm shall be collected for chemistry and toxicity analyses.
4. The entire contents of the grab sample, with a minimum penetration depth of 5 cm, shall be collected for benthic community analysis.
5. Bulk sediment chemical analysis will include at a minimum the pollutants identified in Attachment A.

E. Laboratory Testing

All samples will be tested in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) or American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) methodologies where such methods exist. Where no EPA or ASTM methods exist, the State Water Board or Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) (collectively Water Boards) shall approve the use of other methods. Analytical tests shall be conducted by laboratories certified by the California Department of Health Services in accordance with Water Code Section 13176.

F. Sediment Toxicity

1. Short Term Survival Tests—A minimum of one short-term survival test shall be performed on sediment collected from each station. Acceptable test organisms and methods are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Acceptable Short Term Survival Sediment Toxicity Test Methods

Test Organism	Exposure Type	Duration	Endpoint*
Eohaustorius estuarius	Whole Sediment	10 days	Survival
Leptocheirus plumulosus	Whole Sediment	10 days	Survival
Rhepoxynius abronius	Whole Sediment	10 days	Survival

2. Sublethal Tests—A minimum of one sublethal test shall be performed on sediment collected from each station. Acceptable test organisms and methods are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. Acceptable Sublethal Sediment Toxicity Test Methods

Test Organism	Exposure Type	Duration	Endpoint
Neanthes arenaceodentata	Whole Sediment	28 days	Growth
Mytilus galloprovincialis	Sediment-water Interface	48 hour	Embryo Development

3. Assessment of Sediment Toxicity—Each sediment toxicity test result shall be compared and categorized according to responses in Table 4. The response categories are:
   a. Nontoxic—Response not substantially different from that expected in sediments that are uncontaminated and have optimum characteristics for the test species (e.g., control sediments).
   b. Low toxicity—A response that is of relatively low magnitude; the response may not be greater than test variability.
   c. Moderate toxicity—High confidence that a statistically significant toxic effect is present.
   d. High toxicity—High confidence that a toxic effect is present and the magnitude of response includes the strongest effects observed for the test.

Table 4. Sediment Toxicity Categorization Values

Test Species/ Endpoint	Statistical Significance	Nontoxic (Percent)	Low Toxicity (Percent of Control)	Moderate Toxicity (Percent of Control)	High Toxicity (Percent of Control)
Eohaustorius Survival	Significant	90 to 100	82 to 89	59 to 81	< 59
Eohaustorius Survival	Not Significant	82 to 100	59 to 81		<59
Leptocheirus Survival	Significant	90 to 100	78 to 89	56 to 77	<56
Leptocheirus Survival	Not Significant	78 to 100	56 to 77		<56
Rhepoxynius Survival	Significant	90 to 100	83 to 89	70 to 82	< 70
Rhepoxynius Survival	Not Significant	83 to 100	70 to 82		< 70
Neanthes Growth	Significant	90 to 100*	68 to 90	46 to 67	<46
Neanthes Growth	Not Significant	68 to 100	46 to 67		<46
Mytilus Normal	Significant	80 to 100	77 to 79	42 to 76	< 42
Mytilus Normal	Not Significant	77 to 79	42 to 76		< 42

* Expressed as a percentage of the control.

4. Integration of Sediment Toxicity Categories—The average of all test response categories shall determine the final toxicity LOE category. If the average falls midway between categories it shall be rounded up to the next higher response category.

G. BENTHIC COMMUNITY CONDITION

1. General Requirements.
   a. All benthic invertebrates in the screened sample shall be identified to the lowest possible taxon and counted.
   b. Taxonomic nomenclature shall follow current conventions established by local monitoring programs and professional organizations (e.g., master species list).
2. Benthic Indices—The benthic condition shall be assessed using the following methods:
   a. Benthic Response Index (BRI), which was originally developed for the southern California mainland shelf and extended into California's bays and estuaries. The BRI is the abundance-weighted average pollution tolerance score of organisms occurring in a sample.
   b. Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI), which was developed for freshwater streams and adapted for California's bays and estuaries. The IBI identifies community measures that have values outside a reference range.
   c. Relative Benthic Index (RBI), which was developed for embayments in California's Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program. The RBI is the weighted sum of: (a) several community parameters (total number of species, number of crustacean species, number of crustacean individuals, and number of mollusc species), and abundances of (b) three positive, and (c) two negative indicator species.
   d. River Invertebrate Prediction and Classification System (RIVPACS), which was originally developed for British freshwater streams and adapted for California's bays and estuaries. The approach compares the assemblage at a site with an expected species composition determined by a multivariate predictive model that is based on species relationships to habitat gradients.
3. Assessment of Benthic Community Condition—Each benthic index result shall be categorized according to disturbance as described in Table 5. The disturbance categories are:
   a. Reference—A community composition equivalent to a least affected or unaffected site.
   b. Low disturbance— A community that shows some indication of stress, but could be within measurement error of unaffected condition.
   c. Moderate disturbance—Confident that the community shows evidence of physical, chemical, natural, or anthropogenic stress.
   d. High disturbance—The magnitude of stress is high.
4. Integration of Benthic Community Categories—The median of all benthic index response categories shall determine the benthic condition LOE category. If the median falls between categories it shall be rounded up to the next higher effect category.

Table 5. Benthic Index Categorization Values

Index	Reference	Low Disturbance	Moderate Disturbance	High Disturbance
Southern California Marine Bays				
BRI	< 39.96	39.96 to 49.14	49.15 to 73.26	> 73.26
IBI	0	1	2	3 or 4
RBI	> 0.27	0.17 to 0.27	0.09 to 0.16	< 0.09
RIVPACS	> 0.90 to < 1.10	0.75 to 0.90 or 1.10 to 1.25	0.33 to 0.74 or > 1.25	< 0.33
Polyhaline Central San Francisco Bay				
BRI	< 22.28	22.28 to 33.37	33.38 to 82.08	> 82.08
IBI	0 or 1	2	3	4
RBI	> 0.43	0.30 to 0.43	0.20 to 0.29	< 0.20
RIVPACS	> 0.68 to < 1.32	0.33 to 0.68 or 1.32 to 1.67	0.16 to 0.32 or > 1.67	< 0.16

H. SEDIMENT CHEMISTRY

1. All samples shall be tested for the analytes identified in Attachment A—This list represents the minimum analytes required to assess exposure. In water bodies where other toxic pollutants are believed to pose risk to benthic communities, those toxic pollutants shall be included in the analysis. Inclusion of additional analytes cannot be used in the exposure assessment described below. However, the data can be used to conduct more effective stressor identification studies as described in Section VII. F.
2. Sediment Chemistry Guidelines—The sediment chemistry exposure shall be assessed using the following two methods:
   a. Chemical Score Index (CSI), that uses a series of empirical thresholds to predict the benthic community disturbance category (score) associated with the concentration of various chemicals (Table 6). The CSI is the weighted sum of the individual scores (Equation 1).

      Equation 1. $CSI = \Sigma(w_i \times cat_i)/\Sigma w$

      Where: cat_i = predicted benthic disturbance category for chemical I;
      w_i = weight factor for chemical I;
      Σw = sum of all weights.

   b. California Logistic Regression Model (CA LRM), that uses logistic regression models to predict the probability of sediment toxicity associated with the concentration of various chemicals (Table 7 and Equation 2). The CA LRM exposure value is the maximum probability of toxicity from the individual models (P_{max})

      Equation 2. $p = e^{B0+B1\,(x)} / (1 + e^{B0+B1\,(x)})$

      Where: p = probability of observing a toxic effect;
      B0 = intercept parameter;
      B1 = slope parameter; and
      x = concentration the chemical.

Table 6. Category Score Concentration Ranges and Weighting Factors for the CSI

Chemical	Units	Weight	Score (Disturbance Category)			
			1 Reference	2 Low	3 Moderate	4 High
Copper	mg/kg	100	≤52.8	> 52.8 to 96.5	> 96.5 to 406	> 406
Lead	mg/kg	88	≤ 26.4	> 26.4 to 60.8	> 60.8 to 154	> 154
Mercury	mg/kg	30	≤ 0.09	> 0.09 to 0.45	> 0.45 to 2.18	> 2.18
Zinc	mg/kg	98	≤ 112	> 112 to 200	> 200 to 629	> 629
PAHs, total high MW	µg/kg	16	≤ 312	> 312 to 1325	> 1325 to 9320	>9320
PAHs, total low MW	µg/kg	5	≤ 85.4	> 85.4 to 312	> 312 to 2471	> 2471
Chlordane, alpha-	µg/kg	55	≤ 0.50	> 0.50 to 1.23	> 1.23 to 11.1	>11.1
Chlordane, gamma-	µg/kg	58	≤ 0.54	> 0.54 to 1.45	> 1.45 to 14.5	> 14.5
DDDs, total	µg/kg	46	≤ 0.50	> 0.50 to 2.69	> 2.69 to 117	> 117
DDEs, total	µg/kg	31	≤ 0.50	> 0.50 to 4.15	> 4.15 to 154	> 154
DDTs, total	µg/kg	16	≤ 0.50	> 0.50 to 1.52	> 1.52 to 89.3	> 89.3
PCBs, total	µg/kg	55	≤11.9	> 11.9 to 24.7	> 24.7 to 288	> 288

Table 7. CA LRM Regression Parameters

Chemical	Units	B0	B1
Cadmium	mg/kg	0.29	3.18
Copper	mg/kg	-5.59	2.59
Lead	mg/kg	-4.72	2.84
Mercury	mg/kg	-0.06	2.68
Zinc	mg/kg	-5.13	2.42
PAHs, total high MW	µg/kg	-8.19	2.00
PAHs, total low MW	µg/kg	-6.81	1.88
Chlordane, alpha	µg/kg	-3.41	4.46
Dieldrin	µg/kg	-1.83	2.59
Trans nonachlor	µg/kg	-4.26	5.31
PCBs, total	µg/kg	-4.41	1.48
p,p' DDT	µg/kg	-3.55	3.26

3. Assessment of Sediment Chemistry Exposure—Each sediment chemistry guideline result shall be categorized according to exposure as described in Table 8. The exposure categories are:
   a. Minimal exposure—Sediment-associated contamination* may be present, but exposure is unlikely to result in effects.
   b. Low exposure—Small increase in pollutant exposure that may be associated with increased effects, but magnitude or frequency of occurrence of biological impacts is low.
   c. Moderate exposure—Clear evidence of sediment pollutant exposure that is likely to result in biological effects; an intermediate category.
   d. High exposure—Pollutant exposure highly likely to result in possibly severe biological effects; generally present in a small percentage of the samples.

Table 8. Sediment Chemistry Guideline Categorization Values

Guideline	Minimal Exposure	Low Exposure	Moderate Exposure	High Exposure
CSI	< 1.69	1.69 to 2.33	2.34 to 2.99	>2.99
CA LRM	< 0.33	0.33 to 0.49	0.50 to 0.66	> 0.66

4. Integration of Sediment Chemistry Categories—The average of all chemistry exposure categories shall determine the final sediment chemistry LOE category. If the average falls midway between categories it shall be rounded up to the next higher exposure category.

I. INTERPRETATION AND INTEGRATION OF MLOE

Assessment as to whether the aquatic life sediment quality objective has been attained at a station is accomplished by the interpretation and integration of MLOE. The categories assigned to the three LOE, sediment toxicity, benthic community condition and sediment chemistry are evaluated to determine the station level assessment. The assessment category represented by each of the possible MLOE combinations reflects the presence and severity of two characteristics of the sample: severity of biological effects, and potential for chemically-mediated effects.

1. Severity of Biological Effects—The severity of biological effects present at a site shall be determined by the integration of the toxicity LOE and benthic condition LOE categories using the decision matrix presented in Table 9.
2. Potential for Chemically-Mediated Effects—The potential for effects to be chemically-mediated shall be determined by the integration of the toxicity LOE and chemistry LOE categories using the decision matrix presented in Table 10.

Table 9. Severity of Biological Effects Matrix

		Toxicity LOE Category			
		Nontoxic	Low Toxicity	Moderate Toxicity	High Toxicity
Benthic Condition LOE Category	Reference	Unaffected	Unaffected	Unaffected	Low Effect
	Low Disturbance	Unaffected	Low Effect	Low Effect	Low Effect
	Moderate Disturbance	Moderate Effect	Moderate Effect	Moderate Effect	Moderate Effect
	High Disturbance	Moderate Effect	High Effect	High Effect	High Effect

Table 10. Potential for Chemically Mediated Effects Matrix

		Toxicity LOE Category			
		Nontoxic	Low Toxicity	Moderate Toxicity	High Toxicity
Sediment Chemistry LOE Category	Minimal Exposure	Minimal Potential	Minimal Potential	Low Potential	Moderate Potential
	Low Exposure	Minimal Potential	Low Potential	Moderate Potential	Moderate Potential
	Moderate Exposure	Low Potential	Moderate Potential	Moderate Potential	Moderate Potential
	High Exposure	Moderate Potential	Moderate Potential	High Potential	High Potential

3. Station Level Assessment—The station level assessment shall be determined using the decision matrix presented in Table 11. This assessment combines the intermediate classifications for severity of biological effect and potential for chemically-mediated effect to result in six categories of impact at the station level:
   a. Unimpacted—Confident that sediment contamination is not causing significant adverse impacts to aquatic life living in the sediment at the site.
   b. Likely Unimpacted—Sediment contamination at the site is not expected to cause adverse impacts to aquatic life, but some disagreement among the LOE reduces certainty in classifying the site as unimpacted.
   c. Possibly Impacted—Sediment contamination at the site may be causing adverse impacts to aquatic life, but these impacts are either small or uncertain because of disagreement among LOE.
   d. Likely Impacted—Evidence for a contaminant-related impact to aquatic life at the site is persuasive, even if there is some disagreement among LOE.
   e. Clearly Impacted—Sediment contamination at the site is causing clear and severe adverse impacts to aquatic life.
   f. Inconclusive—Disagreement among the LOE suggests that either the data are suspect or that additional information is needed before a classification can be made.

Table 11. Station Assessment Matrix

		Severity of Effect			
		Unaffected	Low Effect	Moderate Effect	High Effect
Potential For Chemically-Mediated Effects	Minimal Potential	Unimpacted	Likely Unimpacted	Likely Unimpacted	Inconclusive
	Low Potential	Unimpacted	Likely Unimpacted	Possibly Impacted	Possibly Impacted
	Moderate Potential	Likely Unimpacted	Possibly Impacted or Inconclusive[1]	Likely Impacted	Likely Impacted
	High Potential	Inconclusive	Likely Impacted	Clearly Impacted	Clearly Impacted

[1] Inconclusive category when chemistry is classified as minimal exposure, benthic response is classified as reference, and toxicity response is classified as high.

The station assessment resulting from each possible combination of the three LOEs is shown in Attachment B. As an alternative to Tables 9, 10 and 11, each LOE

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category can be applied to Attachment B to determine the overall condition of the station. The results will be the same regardless of the tables used.

4. Relationship to the Aquatic Life – Benthic Community Protection Narrative Objective.
   a. The categories designated as **Unimpacted** and **Likely Unimpacted** shall be considered as achieving the protective condition at the station. All other categories shall be considered as degraded except as provided in b. below.
   b. The Water Board shall designate the category **Possibly Impacted** as meeting the protective condition if the studies identified in Section VII.F demonstrate that the combination of effects and exposure measures are not responding to toxic pollutants in sediments and that other factors are causing these responses within a specific reach segment or waterbody. In this situation, the Water Board will consider only the Categories **Likely Impacted** and **Clearly Impacted** as degraded when making a determination on receiving water limits and impaired water bodies described in Section VII.

J. MLOE Approach to Interpret the Narrative Objective in Other Bays and Estuaries

Station assessments for waterbodies identified in Section V.C.2. will be conducted using the same conceptual approach and similar tools to those described in Sections V.D-H. Each LOE will be evaluated by measuring a set of readily available indicators in accordance with Tables 12 and 13.

1. Station assessment shall be consistent with the following key principles of the assessment approach described in Sections V.D. through V.I:
   a. Results for a single LOE shall not be used as the basis for an assessment.
   b. Evidence of both elevated chemical exposure and biological effects must be present to indicate pollutant-associated impacts.
   c. The categorization of each LOE shall be based on numeric values or a statistical comparison.
2. Lines of Evidence and Measurement Tools—Sediment chemistry, toxicity, and benthic community condition shall be measured at each station. Table 12 lists the required tools for evaluation of each LOE. Each measurement shall be conducted using standardized methods (e.g., EPA or ASTM guidance) where available.
3. Categorization of LOEs—Determination of the presence of an LOE effect (i.e., biologically significant chemical exposure, toxicity, or benthic community disturbance) shall be based on a comparison to a numeric response value or a statistical comparison to reference stations. The numeric values or statistical comparisons (e.g., confidence interval) used to classify a LOE as Effected shall be comparable to those specified in Sections V.F-H. to indicate High Chemical Exposure, High Toxicity, or High Disturbance. Reference stations shall be located in an area expected to be uninfluenced by the discharge or pollutants of concern in the assessment area and shall be representative of other habitat characteristics of the assessment area (e.g., salinity, grain size). Comparison to reference shall be accomplished by compiling data for appropriate regional reference sites and determining the reference envelope using statistical methods (e.g., tolerance interval).

Table 12. Tools for Use in Evaluation of LOEs

LOE	Tools	Metrics
Chemistry	Bulk sediment chemistry to include existing list (Attachment A) plus other chemicals of concern	CA LRM P_{max} Concentration on a dry weight basis
Sediment Toxicity	10-Day amphipod survival using a species tolerant of the sample salinity and grain size characteristics. e.g., *Hyalella azteca* or *Eohaustorius estuarius*	Percent of control survival
Benthic Community Condition	Invertebrate species identification and abundance	Species richness* Presence of sensitive indicator taxa Dominance by tolerant indicator taxa Presence of diverse functional and feeding groups Total abundance

Table 13. Numeric Values and Comparison Methods for LOE Categorization

Metric	Threshold value or Comparison
CA LRM	Pmax > 0.66
Chemical Concentration	Greater than reference range or interval
Percent of Control Survival	*E. estuarius*: < 59 *H. azteca*: < 62 or SWAMP criterion
Species Richness	Less than reference range or interval
Abundance of Sensitive Indicator Taxa	Less than reference range or interval
Abundance of Tolerant Indicator Taxa	Greater than reference range or interval
Total Abundance	Outside of reference range or interval

4. Station Level Assessment—The station level assessment shall be determined using the decision matrix presented in Table 14. This assessment combines the classifications for each LOE to result in two categories of impact at the station level:
   a. Unimpacted—No conclusive evidence of both high pollutant exposure and high biological effects present at the site. Evidence of chemical exposure and biological effects may be within natural variability or measurement error.
   b. Impacted—Confident that sediment contamination present at the site is causing adverse direct impacts to aquatic life.

Table 14. Station Assessment Matrix for Other Bays and Estuaries

Chemistry LOE Category	Toxicity LOE Category	Benthic Condition LOE Category	Station Assessment
No effect	No effect	No effect	Unimpacted
No effect	No effect	Effect	Unimpacted
No effect	Effect	No effect	Unimpacted
No effect	Effect	Effect	Impacted
Effect	No effect	No effect	Unimpacted
Effect	No effect	Effect	Impacted
Effect	Effect	No effect	Impacted
Effect	Effect	Effect	Impacted

5. Relationship to the Aquatic Life – Benthic Community Protection Narrative Objective— The category designated as **Unimpacted** shall be considered as achieving the protective condition at the station.

VI. HUMAN HEALTH

The narrative human health objective in Section IV. B. of this Part 1 shall be implemented on a case-by-case basis, based upon a human health risk assessment. In conducting a risk assessment, the Water Boards shall consider any applicable and relevant information, including California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) policies for fish consumption and risk assessment, Cal/EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Risk Assessment, and USEPA Human Health Risk Assessment policies.

VII. PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of Part 1 shall be conducted in accordance with the following provisions and consistent with the process shown in Figures 1 and 2.

A. DREDGE MATERIALS

1. Part 1 shall not apply to dredge material suitability determinations.
2. The Water Boards shall not approve a dredging project that involves the dredging of sediment that exceeds the objectives in Part 1, unless the Water Boards determine that:
    a. The polluted sediment is removed in a manner that prevents or minimizes water quality degradation.
    b. The polluted sediment is not deposited in a location that may cause significant adverse effects to aquatic life, fish, shellfish, or wildlife or may harm the beneficial uses of the receiving waters, or does not create maximum benefit to the people of the State.
    c. The activity will not cause significant adverse impacts upon a federal sanctuary, recreational area, or other waters of significant national importance.

B. NPDES RECEIVING WATER AND EFFLUENT LIMITS

1. If a Water Board determines that discharge of a toxic pollutant to bay or estuarine waters has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the SQOs, the Water Board shall apply the objectives as receiving water limits.
2. The Permittee shall be in violation of such limits if it is demonstrated that the discharge is causing or contributing to the SQO exceedance as defined in Section VII.C.
3. Receiving water monitoring required by an NPDES permit may be satisfied by a Permitee's participation in a regional SQO monitoring program described in Section VII.E.
4. The sediment chemistry guidelines shall not be translated into or applied as effluent limits. Effluent limits established to protect or restore sediment quality shall be developed only after:
    a. A clear relationship has been established linking the discharge to the degradation,

b. The pollutants causing or contributing to the degradation have been identified, and

c. Appropriate loading studies have been completed to estimate the reductions in pollutant loading that will restore sediment quality.

These actions are described further in Sections VII.F and VII.G. Nothing in this section shall limit a Water Board's authority to develop and implement waste* load allocations* for Total Maximum Daily Loads. However, it is recommended that the Water Boards develop TMDL allocations using the methodology described herein, wherever possible.

C. Exceedance of Receiving Water Limit

Exceedance of a receiving water limit is demonstrated when:

1. Using a binomial distribution*, the total number of stations designated as not meeting the protective condition as defined in Sections V.I.4. or V.J.4. supports rejection of the null hypothesis* as presented in Table 15. The stations included in this analysis will be those located in the vicinity of the discharge and identified in the permit, and
2. It is demonstrated that the discharge is causing or contributing to the SQO exceedance, following the completion of the stressor identification studies described in Section VII.F.
3. If studies by the Permittee demonstrate that other sources may also be contributing to the degradation of sediment quality, the Regional Water Board shall, as appropriate, require the other sources to initiate studies to assess the extent to which these sources are a contributing factor.

Table 15. Minimum Number of Measured Exceedances Needed to Exceed the Direct Effects SQO as a Receiving Water Limit

Sample Size	List If the Number of Exceedances Equals or Is Greater Than
2 – 24	2*
25 – 36	3
37 – 47	4
48 – 59	5
60 – 71	6
72 – 82	7
83 – 94	8
95 – 106	9
107 – 117	10
118 – 129	11

Note: Null Hypothesis: Actual exceedance proportion $\leq$ 3 percent. Alternate Hypothesis: Actual exceedance proportion > 18 percent. The minimum effect size* is 15 percent.

*Application of the binomial test requires a minimum sample size of 16. The number of exceedances required using the binomial test at a sample size of 16 is extended to smaller sample sizes.

Exceedance will require the Permittee to perform additional studies as described in Sections VII.F and VII.G.

D. RECEIVING WATER LIMITS MONITORING FREQUENCY

1. Phase I Stormwater Discharges and Major Discharges—Sediment Monitoring shall not be required less frequently than twice per permit cycle. For Stations that are consistently classified as unimpacted or likely unimpacted the frequency may be reduced to once per permit cycle. The Water Board may limit receiving water monitoring to a subset of outfalls for Phase I Stormwater Permitees.
2. Phase II Stormwater and Minor Discharges—Sediment Monitoring shall not be required more often then twice per permit cycle or less then once per permit cycle. For stations that are consistently classified as unimpacted or likely unimpacted, the number of stations monitored may be reduced at the discretion of the Water Board. The Water Board may limit receiving water monitoring to a subset of outfalls for Phase II Stormwater Permitees.
3. Other Regulated Discharges and Waivers—The frequency of the monitoring for receiving water limits for other regulated discharges and waivers will be determined by the Water Board.

E. SEDIMENT MONITORING

1. Objective—Bedded sediments in bays contain an accumulation of pollutants from a wide variety of past and present sources discharged either directly into the bay or indirectly into waters draining into the bay. Embayments also represent highly disturbed or altered habitats as a result of dredging and physical disturbance caused by construction and maintenance of harbor works, boat and ship traffic, and development of adjacent lands. Due to the multitude of stressors and the complexity of the environment, a well-designed monitoring program is necessary to ensure that the data collected adequately characterizes the condition of sediment in these water bodies.
2. Permitted Discharges—Monitoring may be performed by individual Permitees to assess compliance with receiving water limits, or through participation in a regional or water body monitoring coalition as described under VII.E.3, or both as determined by the Water Board.
3. Monitoring Coalitions—To achieve maximum efficiency and economy of resources, the State Water Board encourages the regulated community in coordination with the Regional Water Boards to establish water body-monitoring coalitions. Monitoring coalitions enable the sharing of technical resources, trained personnel, and associated costs and create an integrated sediment-monitoring program within each major water body. Focusing resources on regional issues and developing a broader understanding of pollutants effects in these water bodies enables the development of more rapid and efficient response strategies and facilitates better management of sediment quality.
    a. If a regional monitoring coalition is established, the coalition shall be responsible for sediment quality assessment within the designated water body and for ensuring that appropriate studies are completed in a timely manner.
    b. The Water Board shall provide oversight to ensure that coalition participants are proactive and responsive to potential sediment quality related issues as they arise during monitoring and assessment.
    c. Each regional monitoring coalition shall prepare a workplan that describes the monitoring, a map of the stations, participants and a schedule that shall be submitted to the Water Board for approval.

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4. Methods—Sediments collected from each station shall be tested or assessed using the methods and metrics described in Section V.
5. Design.
   a. The design of sediment monitoring programs, whether site-specific or region wide, shall be based upon a conceptual model. A conceptual model is useful for identifying the physical and chemical factors that control the fate and transport of pollutants and receptors that could be exposed to pollutants in the sediment. The conceptual model serves as the basis for assessing the appropriateness of a study design. The detail and complexity of the conceptual model is dependent upon the scope and scale of the monitoring program. A conceptual model shall consider:
      – Points of discharge into the segment of the waterbody or region of interest
      – Tidal flow and/or direction of predominant currents
      – Historic and or legacy conditions in the vicinity
      – Nearby land and marine uses or actions
      – Beneficial uses
      – Potential receptors of concern
      – Changes in grain size salinity water depth and organic matter
      – Other sources or discharges in the immediate vicinity.
   b. Sediment monitoring programs shall be designed to ensure that the aggregate stations are spatially representative of the sediment within the water body.
   c. The design shall take into consideration existing data and information of appropriate quality.
   d. Stratified random design shall be used where resources permit to assess conditions throughout a water body.
   3. Identification of appropriate strata shall consider characteristics of the water body including sediment transport, hydrodynamics, depth, salinity, land uses, inputs (both natural and anthropogenic) and other factors that could affect the physical, chemical, or biological condition of the sediment.
   f. Targeted designs shall be applied to those Permitees that are required to meet receiving water limits as described in Section VII. B.
6. Index Period—All stations shall be sampled between the months of June through September to be consistent with the benthic community condition index period.
7. Regional Monitoring Schedule and Frequency.
   a. Regional sediment quality monitoring will occur at a minimum of once every three years.
   b. Sediments identified as exceeding the narrative objective will be evaluated more frequently.
8. Evaluating Waters for placement on the Section 303(d) list —In California, water segments are placed on the section 303(d) list for sediment toxicity based either on toxicity alone or toxicity that is associated with a pollutant. The listing criteria are contained in the State Water Board's Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List (2004)(Listing Policy). Part 1 adds an additional listing criterion that applies only to listings for exceedances of the narrative sediment quality objective for aquatic life protection in Section IV.A. The criterion under Part 1 is described in subsection a. below and the relationship

between the sediment toxicity listing criteria under the Listing Policy and the criterion under Part 1 is described in subsections b. and c., below.

1. Water segments shall be placed on the section 303(d) list for exceedance of the narrative sediment quality objective for aquatic life protection in Section IV.A. of Part 1 only if the number of stations designated as not achieving the protective condition as defined in Sections V.I. and V.J. supports rejection of the null hypothesis, as provided in Table 3.1 of the State Water Board's Listing Policy.
2. Water segments that exhibit sediment toxicity but that are not listed for an exceedance of the narrative sediment quality objective for aquatic life protection in Section IV.A. shall continue to be listed in accordance with Section 3.6 of the Listing Policy.
3. If a water segment is listed under Section 3.6 of the Listing Policy and the Regional Water Board later determines that the applicable water quality standard that is impaired consists of the sediment quality objective in Section IV.A. of Part 1 and a bay or estuarine habitat beneficial use, the Regional Water Board shall reevaluate the listing in accordance with Sections V.I and V.J. If the Regional Water Board reevaluates the listing and determines that the water segment does not meet the criteria in subsection a. above, the Regional Water Board shall delist the water segment.

F. STRESSOR IDENTIFICATION

If sediments fail to meet the narrative SQOs in accordance with Sections V. and VI. the Water Boards shall direct the regional monitoring coalitions or Permittees to conduct stressor identification.

The Water Boards shall assign the highest priority for stressor identification to those segments or reaches with the highest percentage of sites designated as Clearly Impacted and Likely Impacted.

Where segments or reaches contain Possibly Impacted but no Clearly or Likely Impacted sites, confirmation monitoring shall be conducted prior to initiating stressor identification.

The stressor identification approach consists of development and implementation of a work plan to seek confirmation and characterization of pollutant-related impacts, pollutant identification and source identification. The workplan shall be submitted to the Water Board for approval. Stressor identification consists of the following studies:

1. Confirmation and Characterization of Pollutant Related Impacts—Exceedance of the direct effects SQO at a site indicates that pollutants in the sediment are the likely cause but does not identify the specific pollutant responsible. The MLOE assessment establishes a linkage to sediment pollutants; however, the lack of confounding factors (e.g., physical disturbance, non-pollutant constituents) must be confirmed. There are two generic stressors that are not related to toxic pollutants that may cause the narrative to be exceeded:
   a. Physical Alteration—Examples of physical stressors include reduced salinity, impacts from dredging, very fine or coarse grain size, and prop wash from passing ships. These types of stressors may produce a non-reference condition* in the benthic community that is similar to that caused by pollutants. If impacts to a site are purely due to physical disturbance, the LOE characteristics will likely show a degraded benthic community with little or no toxicity and low chemical concentrations.

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b. Other Pollutant Related Stressors—These constituents, which include elevated total organic carbon, ammonia, nutrients and pathogens, may have sources similar to chemical pollutants. Chemical and microbiological analysis will be necessary to determine if these constituents are present. The LOE characteristics for this type of stressor would likely be a degraded benthic community with possibly an indication of toxicity, and low chemical concentrations.

To further assess a site that is impacted by toxic pollutants, there are several lines of investigation that may be pursued, depending on site-specific conditions. These studies may be considered and evaluated in the work plan for the confirmation effort:

a. Evaluate the spatial extent of the Area of Concern. This information can be used to evaluate the potential risk associated with the sediment, distinguish areas of known physical disturbance or pollution and evaluate the proximity to anthropogenic source gradient from such inputs as outfalls, storm drains, and industrial and agricultural activities.

b. Body burden data may be examined from animals exposed to the site's sediment to indicate if pollutants are being accumulated and to what degree.

c. Chemical specific mechanistic benchmarks* may be applied to interpret sediment chemistry concentrations.

d. Chemistry and biology data from the site should be examined to determine if there is a correlation between the two LOE.

e. Alternate biological effects data may be pursued, such as bioaccumulation* experiments and pore water toxicity or chemical analysis.

f. Other investigations that may commonly be performed as part of a Phase 1 Toxicity Identification Evaluation* (TIE).

If there is compelling evidence that the SQO exceedances contributing to a receiving water limit exceedance are not due to toxic pollutants, then the assessment area shall be designated as having achieved the receiving water limit.

2. Pollutant Identification—Methods to help determine cause may be statistical, biological, chemical or a combination. Pollutant identification studies should be structured to address site-specific conditions, and may be based upon the following:

a. Statistical methods—Correlations between individual chemicals and biological endpoints (toxicity and benthic community).

b. Gradient analysis—Comparisons are made between different samples taken at various distances from a chemical hotspot to examine patterns in chemical concentrations and biological responses. The concentrations of causative agents should decrease as biological effects decrease.

c. Additional Toxicity Identification Evaluation efforts—A toxicological method for determining the cause of impairments is the use of toxicity identification evaluations (TIE). Sediment samples are manipulated chemically or physically to remove classes of chemicals or render them biologically unavailable. Following the manipulations, biological tests are performed to determine if toxicity has been removed. TIEs should be conducted at a limited number of stations, preferably those with strong biological or toxicological effects.

d. Bioavailability*—Chemical pollutants may be present in the sediment but not biologically available to cause toxicity or degradation of the benthic community. There are several measures of bioavailability that can be made. Chemical and toxicological measurements can be made on pore water to determine the availability of sediment pollutants. Metal compounds may be naturally bound up in the sediment and rendered unavailable by the presence of sulfides. Measurement of acid volatile sulfides and simultaneously extracted metals analysis can be conducted to determine if sufficient sulfides are present to bind the observed metals. Similarly, organic compounds can be tightly bound to sediments. Measurements of sediment organic carbon and other binding phases can be conducted to determine the bioavailable fraction of organic compounds. Solid phase microextraction (SPME) or laboratory desorption experiments can also be used to identify which organics are bioavailable to benthic organisms.

e. Verification—After specific chemicals are identified as likely causes of impairment, analysis should be performed to verify the results. Sediments can be spiked with the suspected chemicals to verify that they are indeed toxic at the concentrations observed in the field. Alternately, animals can be transplanted to suspected sites for *in situ* toxicity and bioaccumulation testing.

When stressor Identification yields inconclusive results for sites classified as Possibly Impacted, the Water Board shall require the Permittee or regional monitoring coalition to perform a one-time augmentation to that study or, alternatively, the Water Board may suspend further stressor identification studies pending the results of future routine SQO monitoring.

3. Sources Identification and Management Actions.
   a. Determine if the sources are ongoing or legacy sources.
   b. Determine the number and nature of ongoing sources.
   c. If a single discharger is found to be responsible for discharging the stressor pollutant at a loading rate that is significant, the Regional Water Board shall require the discharger to take all necessary and appropriate steps to address exceedance of the SQO, including but not limited to reducing the pollutant loading into the sediment.
   d. When multiple sources are present in the water body that discharge the stressor pollutant at a loading rate that is significant, the Regional Water Board shall require the sources to take all necessary and appropriate steps to address exceedance of the SQO. If appropriate, the Regional Water Board may adopt a TMDL to ensure attainment of the sediment standard.

G. CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT

Cleanup and abatement actions covered by Water Code section 13304 for sediments that exceed the objectives in Chapter IV shall comply with Resolution No. 92-49 (Policies and Procedures for Investigation and Cleanup and Abatement of Discharges under Water Code Section 13304), Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§2907, 2911.

H. DEVELOPMENT OF SITE-SPECIFIC SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The Regional Water Boards may develop site-specific sediment management guidelines where appropriate, for example, where toxic stressors have been identified and controllable sources of these stressors exist or remedial goals are desired.

Development of site-specific sediment management guidelines is the process to estimate the level of the stressor pollutant that will meet the narrative sediment quality objective. The guideline can serve as the basis for cleanup goals or revision of effluent limits described in B. 4

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above, depending upon the situation or sources. All guidelines when applied for cleanup, must comply with 92-49.

Guideline development should only be initiated after the stressor has been identified. The goal is to establish a relationship between the organism's exposure and the biological effect. Once this relationship is established, a pollutant specific guideline may be designated that corresponds with minimum biological effects. The following approaches can be applied to establish these relationships:

1. Correspondence with sediment chemistry. An effective guideline can best be derived based upon the site-specific, or reach- specific relationship between the stressor pollutant exposure and biological response. Therefore the correspondence between the bulk sediment stressor concentration and biological effects should be examined.
2. Correspondence with bioavailable pollutant concentration. The concentration of the bioavailable fraction of the stressor pollutants is likely to show a less variable relationship to biological effects that bulk sediment chemistry. Interstitial water analysis, SPME, desorption experiments, selective extractions, or mechanistic models may indicate the bioavailable pollutant concentration. The correspondence between the bioavailable stressor concentration and biological effects should be examined.
3. Correspondence with tissue residue. The concentration of the stressor accumulated by a target organism may provide a measure of the stressor dose for some chemicals (e.g., those that are not rapidly metabolized). The tissue residue threshold concentration associated with unacceptable biological effects can be combined with a bioaccumulation factor or model to estimate the loading or sediment concentration guideline.
4. Literature review. If site-specific analyses are ambiguous or unable to determine a guideline, then the results of similar development efforts for other areas should be reviewed. Scientifically credible values from other studies can be combined with mechanistic or empirical models of bioavailability, toxic potency, and organism sensitivity to estimate guidelines for the area of interest.
5. The chemistry LOE of Section V.H.2, including the threshold values (e.g. CSI and CALRM), shall not be used for setting cleanup levels or numeric values for technical TMDLs.

VIII. GLOSSARY

BENTHIC: Living on or in bottom of the ocean, bays, and estuaries, or in the streambed.

BINOMIAL DISTRIBUTION: Mathematical distribution that describes the probabilities associated with the possible number of times particular outcomes will occur in series of observations (i.e., samples). Each observation may have only one of two possible results (e.g., standard exceeded or standard not exceeded).

BIOACCUMULATION: A process in which an organism's body burden of a pollutant exceeds that in its surrounding environment as a result of chemical uptake through all routes of chemical exposure; dietary and dermal absorption and transport across the respiratory surface.

BIOAVAILABILITY: The fraction of a pollutant that an organism is exposed to that is available for uptake through biological membranes (gut, gills).

CHEMICALS OF CONCERN (COCS): Pollutants that occur in environmental media at levels that pose a risk to ecological receptors or human health.

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CONTAMINATION: An impairment of the quality of the waters of the State by waste to a degree that creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. “Contamination” includes any equivalent effect resulting from the disposal of waste whether or not waters of the State are affected (CWC section 13050(k)).

EFFECT SIZE: The maximum magnitude of exceedance frequency that is tolerated.

ENCLOSED BAYS: Indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between headlands or outermost harbor works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. This definition includes, but is not limited to: Humboldt Bay, Bodega Harbor, Tomales Bay, Drakes Estero, San Francisco Bay, Morro Bay, Los Angeles Harbor, Upper and Lower Newport Bay, Mission Bay, and San Diego Bay.

ENDPOINT: A measured response of a receptor to a stressor. An endpoint can be measured in a toxicity test or in a field survey.

ESTUARIES AND COASTAL LAGOONS: Waters at the mouths of streams that serve as mixing zones* for fresh and ocean waters during a major portion of the year. Mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered as estuaries. Estuarine waters will generally be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to the upstream limit of tidal action but may be considered to extend seaward if significant mixing of fresh and salt water occurs in the open coastal waters. The waters described by this definition include, but are not limited to, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as defined by Section 12220 of the California Water Code, Suisun Bay, Carquinez Strait downstream to Carquinez Bridge, and appropriate areas of the Smith, Klamath, Mad, Eel, Noyo, and Russian Rivers.

EUHALINE: Waters ranging in salinity from 25–32 practical salinity units (psu).

INLAND SURFACE WATERS: All surface waters of the State that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

LOAD ALLOCATION (LA): The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its nonpoint sources of pollution or to natural background sources.

MECHANISTIC BENCHMARKS: Chemical guidelines developed based upon theoretical processes governing bioavailability and the relationship to biological effects.

MIXING ZONE: A limited zone within a receiving water that is allocated for mixing with a wastewater discharge where water quality criteria can be exceeded without causing adverse effects to the overall water body.

NONPOINT SOURCES: Sources that do not meet the definition of a point source as defined below.

NULL HYPOTHESIS: A statement used in statistical testing that has been put forward either because it is believed to be true or because it is to be used as a basis for argument, but has not been proved.

OCEAN WATERS: Territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Water Board’s California Ocean Plan.

POINT SOURCE: Any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include agricultural stormwater discharges and return flows from irrigated agriculture.

POLLUTANT: Defined in section 502(6) of the CWA as "dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water."

POLLUTION: Defined in section 502(19) of the CWA as the "the man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water." *Pollution* is also defined in CWC section 13050(1) as an alternation of the quality of the waters of the State by waste to a degree that unreasonably affects either the waters for beneficial uses or the facilities that serve these beneficial uses.

POLYHALINE: Waters ranging in salinity from 18–25 psu.

REFERENCE CONDITION: The characteristics of water body segments least impaired by human activities. As such, reference conditions can be used to describe attainable biological or habitat conditions for water body segments with common watershed/catchment characteristics within defined geographical regions.

SPECIES RICHNESS: The number of species in a sample.

SURFICIAL SEDIMENTS: Those sediments representing recent depositional materials and containing the majority of the benthic invertebrate community.

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE: When it can be demonstrated that the probability of obtaining a difference by chance only is relatively low.

TOXICITY IDENTIFICATION EVALUATION (TIE): Techniques used to identify the unexplained cause(s) of toxic events. TIE involves selectively removing classes of chemicals through a series of sample manipulations, effectively reducing complex mixtures of chemicals in natural waters to simple components for analysis. Following each manipulation the toxicity of the sample is assessed to see whether the toxicant class removed was responsible for the toxicity.

WASTE: As used in this document, waste includes a discharger's total discharge, of whatever origin, i.e., gross, not net, discharge.

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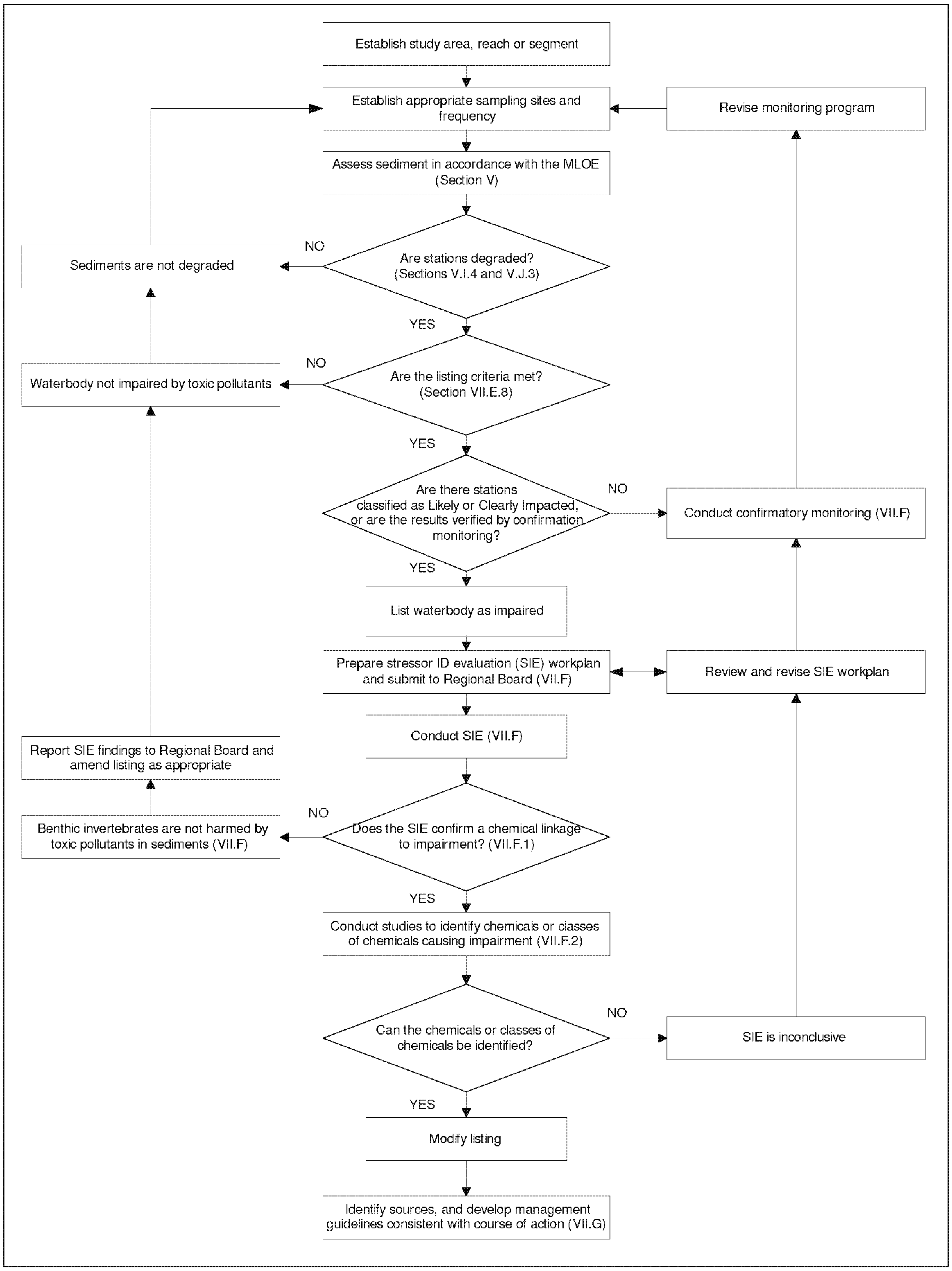

Figure 1. Waterbody Assessment Process

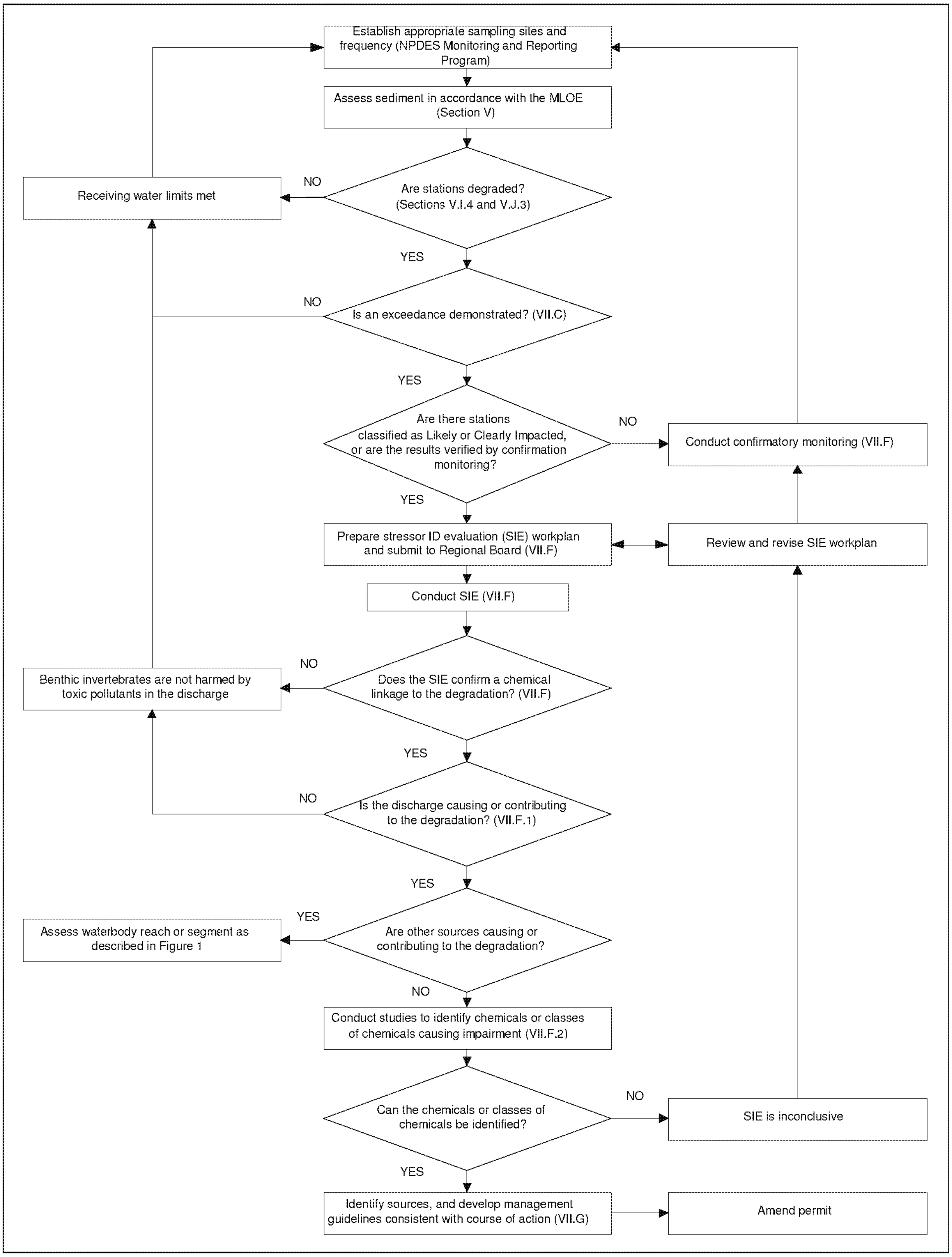

Figure 2. Point Source Assessment Process

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Attachment A. List of chemical analytes needed to characterize sediment contamination exposure and effect.

Chemical Name	Chemical Group	Chemical Name	Chemical Group
Total Organic Carbon	General	Alpha Chlordane	Pesticide
Percent Fines	General	Gamma Chlordane	Pesticide
		Trans Nonachlor	Pesticide
Cadmium	Metal	Dieldrin	Pesticide
Copper	Metal	o,p'-DDE	Pesticide
Lead	Metal	o,p'-DDD	Pesticide
Mercury	Metal	o,p'-DDT	Pesticide
Zinc	Metal	p,p'-DDD	Pesticide
		p,p'-DDE	Pesticide
		p,p'-DDT	Pesticide
Acenaphthene	PAH	2,4'-Dichlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Anthracene	PAH	2,2',5-Trichlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Biphenyl	PAH	2,4,4'-Trichlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Naphthalene	PAH	2,2',3,5'-Tetrachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
2,6-dimethylnaphthalene	PAH	2,2',5,5'-Tetrachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Fuorene	PAH	2,3',4,4'-Tetrachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
1-methylnaphthalene	PAH	2,2',4,5,5'-Pentachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
2-methylnaphthalene	PAH	2,3,3',4,4'-Pentachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
1-methylphenanthrene	PAH	2,3',4,4',5-Pentachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Phenanthrene	PAH	2,2',3,3',4,4'-Hexachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Benzo(a)anthracene	PAH	2,2',3,4,4',5'-Hexachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Benzo(a)pyrene	PAH	2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Benzo(e)pyrene	PAH	2,2',3,3',4,4',5-Heptachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Chrysene	PAH	2,2',3,4,4',5,5'-Heptachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	PAH	2,2',3,4',5,5',6-Heptachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Fluoranthene	PAH	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,6-Octachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Perylene	PAH	2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6-Nonachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener
Pyrene	PAH	Decachlorobiphenyl	PCB congener

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